

Spite, Says Wife "Identified" as Murder Victim

Mrs. Arnold Wagstaff Contradicts Husband, Who Held Part of Body Found in Jersey Pool Was Hers

Eight Names Advanced

Cablegram From Porto Rico Asserts Dolly Higgins Is Alive and in San Juan

Arnold Wagstaff, a chauffeur, of 174 Veronica Place, Brooklyn, went to Bellevue Mergue Friday and after viewing the body of the young woman found last Saturday in a rain-water pond in Long Island City said he was convinced it was the body of his wife, Mary Agnes Wagstaff.

Last night Mrs. Mary Agnes Wagstaff walked into the Ralph Avenue police station, Brooklyn, and told Desk Lieutenant Richard Hamilton that she had heard she had been "identified" and that she had something to say about it on her own account.

Says She Is Very Much Alive

"I am Mrs. Mary Agnes Wagstaff," she said. "Everybody thinks I'm dead—everybody but myself. I have not been murdered and on the contrary am very much alive." Questioned by Detective William Regan, she said that she lived in a furnished room at 584 Van Buren Street, Brooklyn, that she had a job and worked at it every day. She declared that she believed her husband identified the body for spite, so as to give her publicity.

Wagstaff's identification of the body of the murder victim was the eighth that has been made. Dr. Charles Norris, chief medical examiner, and the police have refused to accept any of these identifications. In addition to the eight persons who have "identified" the body after examining it, one man at New Haven reported to the police that he knew the murder victim from published descriptions of her.

Captain Arthur Carey, who is in charge of the police investigation of the murder mystery, last night received a cablegram from San Juan, Porto Rico, which served further to convince him that the murdered woman is not Mrs. Dolly Bailey Higgins, of Brooklyn. Four persons, including the mother and sister of Dolly Bailey Hig-

gins, have declared the body to be that of Mrs. Higgins.

The apparently unending stream of persons calling to identify the body yesterday caused the Medical Examiner to rule that the body can be viewed only between 10 a. m. and 4 p. m. and then in the company of a policeman. More than 100 persons have seen the body and more than 500 have been turned away.

Before Mrs. Wagstaff called at the Ralph Avenue station Dr. Norris announced that he would not accept the identification made by Wagstaff. Shortly after the Medical Examiner made this statement Wagstaff and three sisters viewed the body and said they were about convinced that the body was not that of Mrs. Wagstaff.

List of identifications

Those who have identified the body thus far are the following: Wagstaff, a "Mr. Gregory," who said the woman was a Miss Ella Fay; Capt. E. A. Moeller, U. S. M. C., stationed at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, who was the first to say he recognized the woman; Mrs. May Ballard, 201 McDonough Street, Brooklyn; Mrs. Elizabeth Richard, 285 Summit Avenue, Jersey City; Mrs. Helen Otto, 388 Quincy Street, Brooklyn, and Homer Dennis, of 1241 Schenck Avenue, Jamaica, Antonio Pardone, of 851 Grand Avenue, New Haven, told the New Haven police that from published descriptions of the murder victim he was sure she was Lena Tiece, formerly of New Haven.

Captain Moeller changed his mind the day after he had viewed the body and declared positively that he did not know the woman. Mrs. Ballard, her mother, and two friends of Mrs. Ballard, Mrs. Otto and Homer Dennis, all identified the woman as Mrs. Dolly Bailey Higgins. They have refused to change their minds, despite the fact that the police would not accept the identification. Thomas Higgins, husband of Dolly Bailey Higgins, told the police the body was not that of his wife. The "identification" of Mrs. Richard was discredited.

The cablegram received by Captain Carey read: "Dolly Higgins is here in good health." It was signed, "Shanton."

Haight to Hear Fare Facts

Federal Court Appoints Him Master in Jersey Case

TRENTON, N. J., Oct. 29.—Federal Judge John Rellstab to-day appointed former Judge Thomas G. Haight, of Jersey City, as special master to take testimony in the injunction proceedings brought by the Public Service Railway Company to prevent the New Jersey State Public Utility Board and the Attorney General from interfering with the imposition of a 10-cent fare.

The order for referring the case to a special master was presented by E. Ambler Armstrong, counsel for the railway, to Judge Rellstab. Judge Haight will begin taking testimony as soon as all parties to the suit are ready. The Utility Board had allowed the company a seven-cent fare and a two-cent charge for transfers.

"Jack the Snipper" a Creature Of Girl Craving Bobbed Hair

New Jersey Folk Who Feared Prowler Would Prune Away the Locks of Their Daughters Are Set at Rest by Report Sent to the Mayor of Westwood

HACKENSACK, N. J., Oct. 29.—Women and children of Westwood, N. J., were informed to-day that they could walk the streets of that community in the evening now without fear of the ragged, greasy, black-bearded Jack the Snipper, who forced his way into the home of Walter Haws last Saturday night and snipped off the tresses of his seventeen-year-old daughter Marjorie.

The police guard has been withdrawn from the Haws home. Posses no longer search the woods for a "wild man." The mystery has been solved, according to a report sent to Mayor Ward of Westwood to-day by Prosecutor A. C. Hart, and the town may rest easy.

The truth is, according to Mr. Hart, Marjorie wanted to bob her hair and her parents objected. Now Marjorie's hair is bobbed and the fearsome figurement of Marjorie's imagination will stalk abroad no more, the Prosecutor is certain. Her story of the visit of the snipper is characterized by Mr. Hart as "pure bunk."

"She had told a young man of Westwood," said Mr. Hart in his report to the Mayor, "that she wanted to bob her hair. The evening in question she sent her twelve-year-old brother to the young man with a message for him to

come to the house that evening as she would have something to show him.

"The frightful, villainous intruder whom she described did not harm her in the least. There was not a mark upon her throat, side or temple. He had, indeed, in loosening her locks, dropped only one hairpin in the hall; the others were found in the parlor. She very generously remained in the hall while he brought the scissors from the kitchen. She could have escaped easily through the outer door or made an outcry.

"How he knew that a pair of scissors was hanging on a nail in the kitchen is not disclosed, and the only result of his villany is that Marjorie's locks are bobbed. She knew that her parents would not allow her to bob her hair, and rather than incur her parents' anger Marjorie brought from the realms of her imagination a horrible and vicious demon who accomplished the task for her and at the same time gave her a large measure of sympathetic notoriety.

"Five of these bunk cases have happened within the last year, and the people of the locality affected in each instance have been much disturbed. We cannot put Marjorie in jail. She is a young and ordinarily good child of splendid parents. But I purpose to prosecute the next one who acts in the way she has acted."

Losey Identifies the Body of Boy Found In Niagara as Son

Medical Examiner Insists Youth Was Murdered, but Police Scout Theory; No Clew to Possible Crime

Special Dispatch to The Tribune

BUFFALO, Oct. 29.—M. D. Losey, Superintendent of Schools at Northport, L. I., this morning positively identified the body found Thursday in the Niagara River, near the International Bridge here, as that of his son, Kenneth R. Losey, twenty years old, a student at Wesleyan University, Middletown.

A controversy arose between the police and Medical Examiner Earl G. Danser as to the manner in which the youth met death. Dr. Danser said the stab wound in the left side caused

death. The police, however, believe the wound was inflicted after death, and was caused by the grappling hook used in towing the body to shore.

Dr. Danser intimated that the police were trying to discredit the homicide theory to avoid having a murder case to solve. He explained that no water was found in the lungs, so drowning was not possible. The nature of the stab wound proved, he said, that it was ante-mortem and not self-inflicted. He expressed belief that the young man was stabbed, then thrown into the river.

Detective Chief Zimmerman said he was persuaded that Losey did not meet with foul play. He made this statement after receiving an affidavit made by Patrolman Leo H. Hertel, one of the men who found the body, in which Hertel said he had hooked the left side of the body with a grappling hook.

The police have made no headway toward solving the mystery. They are seeking a small black handbag with brass buckles, which young Losey took with him when he left the college. No trace has been found of Losey's movements while in this city.

Losey's father arrived early to-day. He expressed the belief that his son had been lured here and murdered.

He is assisting the police in their investigation of his son's activities here. An investigation of his son's personal affairs has thrown no light, he said, on a motive for murder.

"Kenneth was always a boy of good character," said his father. "He stood high in his class and always considered in me. He was awarded a scholarship for Wesleyan and this was helping to pay his tuition. He was pursuing a bachelor of science course in preparation for a course in medicine at Columbia University.

"It was only a month ago that he talked most enthusiastically of his future plans and ambitions. He had no friends or acquaintances in Buffalo and has never been this far west before. I cannot understand why he came here."

Schutte Bequeaths Handcuffs

HARTFORD, Conn., Oct. 29.—Emil Schutte, the former storekeeper and constable of Hartford who was sentenced a few days ago to be hanged April 10 for murdering three of his neighbors, to-day directed from state prison that his policeman's baton and handcuffs be given to Deputy Sheriff George M. Smith, of Moodus, in appreciation of the kind treatment given Schutte during his trial at Middletown.

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